

## Justin P. Wilson, Comptroller

January 23, 2019

## **Comptroller's Office Provides Free Online Utility Training**

The Tennessee Comptroller's Office is pleased to offer free online training for board members who oversee a water and/or wastewater utility system.

In 2018, the Tennessee General Assembly passed legislation requiring the Comptroller's Office to provide online training for municipal and county utility board members by March 1, 2019. The Comptroller's Office is not only pleased that it has met this deadline, but that it has also done so using existing resources.

State law mandates that all utility board members, which may include city council members and county commissioners, attend 12 hours of utilities training within 12 months of their initial election or appointment. Continuing education is also required.

The Comptroller's online training provides a variety of courses covering subjects such as budgeting, debt issuance, fraud, water loss prevention, public records, and open meetings compliance. City and county board members are eligible for all of the courses. A selection of courses has also been approved for utility district and treatment authority board members and commissioners.

When a board member completes a course, he or she will receive a certificate. Board members should maintain these certificates.

"We believe board members will certainly enjoy the convenience of watching this free online training," said Comptroller Justin. P. Wilson. "Ultimately, we believe training will improve the governance of Tennessee's water and wastewater systems, which has a direct impact on utility customers."

The Comptroller's Online Utility Training can be accessed by clicking here.

If you suspect fraud, waste or abuse of public money in Tennessee, call the Comptroller's toll-free hotline at 800.232.5454, or file a report online at: www.comptroller.tn.gov/hotline. Follow us on twitter: @TNCOT

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